Customer Report





Baltimore City Department of Public Works

2018 | Volume VI

Bringing the Bang for Your Water Bill Bucks



You may have noticed that what you pay for water makes up a surprisingly small portion of your water bill.

Take a close look at your bill and you will see three key charges:

Water Costs: We provide water for just \$2.73 per unit. That's

like spending less than three dollars for 150 of those 5-gallon water cooler jugs! And you don't even have to lift them onto the cooler; just turn the tap!

Sewer Costs: We treat what goes down the drain or flushed down the toilet. Our sewer charge of \$7.32 per unit of water to clean the wastewater protects public health and our environment.

Not everyone realizes that much of the bill actually covers the cost of treating wastewater arriving at our Back River or Patapsco Treatment Plants. The cost of chemicals, energy, and paying the well-trained, hardworking people who provide 24/7 service at our wastewater plants adds up.

Infrastructure Fees: For most residential customers our

infrastructure charge ranges from \$18.24 to \$32.84 per month, depending on the size of their water meter. Think of it as a fixed charge for fixing our aging sewer pipes, our water and sewage treatment plants, at least 15 miles of water mains each year, and building underground storage tanks to make sure our water is secure.

Your water bill payments make this work possible. DPW's water and wastewater budget is entirely supported by water customers and receives no support from general City funds.

I am firmly committed to affordability, through careful management of our operations and by providing eligible customers access to the financial assistance programs I discussed in last month's Customer Report. For more information, please visit the Water Billing Information section of our website, **PublicWorks**. **BaltimoreCity.gov** or call **410-396-5398**.

Rudolph S. Chow, P.E.

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Director, Department of Public Works

New ATLVs Expand Cleaning in Business Districts and Gateways

DPW has received 15 new all-terrain litter vehicles (ATLVs) that allow us to expand cleaning operations for business districts and gateways into surrounding neighborhoods.

ATLVs can do the work of an additional 26 employees, helping the City maximize and extend its litter-fighting efforts. The machines will boost cleaning in the existing 19 business districts and traffic gateways in virtually every section of the City.

A \$500,000 grant from Keep Maryland cont'd on pg. 2



UPCOMING EVENTS

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS FIRST FRIDAY/SATURDAY,

THROUGH OCTOBER

Drop off items like automotive fluids, batteries, paint thinners, oil based paints, and insecticides at 2840 Sisson Street. The hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in August and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in September and October.

RECYCLING BIN SALE, FREE SHREDDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

Free paper shredding for city residents; up to two 32-gallon bags of documents per household. Recycling bins: \$7 for a large bin, \$3 for a lid, and \$4 for a small bin. Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, 1400 W. Cold Spring Lane. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Recycling bins will also be on-sale at Dam Jam at Lake Montebello on Aug. 25.

• LABOR DAY, SEPTEMBER 3

City offices closed.

BALTIMORE BOOK FESTIVAL, INNER HARBOR SEPT. 28, 29, 30

This literary extravaganza is the last weekend in September. Visit the DPW Booth for information on water bills, recycling, and more.



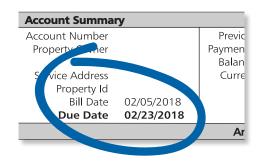
Join DPW for Dam Jam at Lake Montebello



Everyone is invited to come out for a fun-filled day of music, activities, and water appreciation at Lake Montebello, Saturday, Aug. 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. DPW staff will provide guided tours of the Montebello Water Filtration Plant. Music will be provided by Cold Spring Jazz Quartet in the morning and Panama Band in the afternoon. Bike riding, food trucks, art, animal exhibits, and more will add to the excitement. Dam Jam at Lake Montebello is a free, kid-friendly family event. For more information, call **410-545-6541**.

Avoid Late Fees

Water bill payments that arrive after the Due Date printed on the bill will be assessed late fees of 1.64 percent of the bill. If you are having difficulty paying your bill, contact us at 410-396-5398.



New ATLVs Expand Cleaning in Business Districts and Gateways cont'd from page 1

Beautiful has allowed DPW to purchase the new ATLVs, which nearly triples the number of them in our fleet.

DPW unveiled the new ATLVs in June at the Shake and Bake Family Fun Center in West Baltimore, following an event with Gov. Larry Hogan.

The Keep Maryland Beautiful program is part of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The

program focuses on neighborhood beautification through greening, citizen stewardship, community education, and litter removal.

DPW worked with Mayor Catherine E. Pugh's BMORE Beautiful Program and the City's Environmental Control Board for the ATLV grant. Funding like this increases DPW's litter-fighting efforts and supports the Mayor's vision of a cleaner, more beautiful Baltimore.

Baltimore City Department of Public Works

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